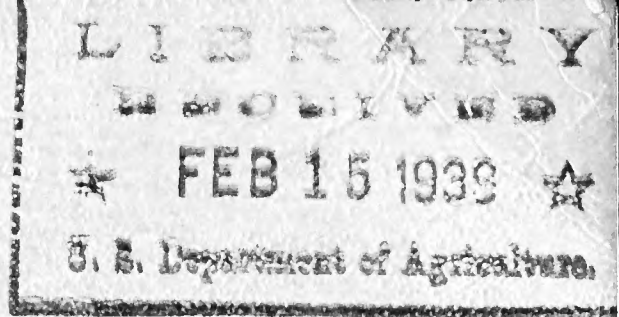


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**SPARKS'**  
**PRIZE DAHLIAS**  
**FOR**  
**1939**



*Quality Always*



**Sparks' Dahlia Gardens**

**616 Hutchins Ave.**

**Columbus, Indiana**









THE "SPARKS"

## GREETINGS:

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS and DAHLIA LOVERS:

At this season of the year, it's the opportunity we have of conveying to you our gratitude for your good will and patronage during the year.

We like to think of our customers as our friends. We like to value our business friendships as we value our personal friends. We hope that our friendships will ever be strengthened in the coming years, and that we may in every way justify your faith in our service.

And now to the prospective customer, we know we can please you, and ask for a trial order. May we hear from you?

And so, we wish you a New Year brim full of Dahlia's success, not because it's the customary thing to do, but because it's a sentiment genuinely felt.

Yours for better results,  
Sincerely,  
SPARKS DAHLIA GARDENS.

# **SPECIAL AWARDS OF 1938**

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## **SEVEN SWEEPSTAKES**

COMPETITIVE exhibits in 6 shows, **219 RIBBONS**—Detroit, Indianapolis, Muncie, Madison, Chicago Berlet Foundation, and Cincinnati.

Sweepstakes for most points Open to All, at Muncie, Madison, and Cincinnati shows.

Awarded the President's perpetual trophy at Madison by winning it three consecutive years.

Open to all section, largest bloom, Robert Ripley.

Collection 1937-1938 introductions--Michigan Silver Medal at Detroit, Mid West Show.

Sweepstakes awarded by Berlet Foundation, exhibit at Chicago, for most perfect garden and highest award given for blooms heretofore exhibited, including seedlings.

Grand Sweepstakes, over entire show at Muncie.

Supreme Award, over entire show at Madison--219 points.

Grand Sweepstakes, at Cincinnati--254 points.

The picture opposite, is special awards--all won in 1938.

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Dahlias excel in popularity. They produce more flowers to the plant and have more variation in color and shape than any other out-door flower in existence.

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## **MID-WEST DAHLIA SHOW**

### **CLEVELAND, SEPTEMBER 23-24**

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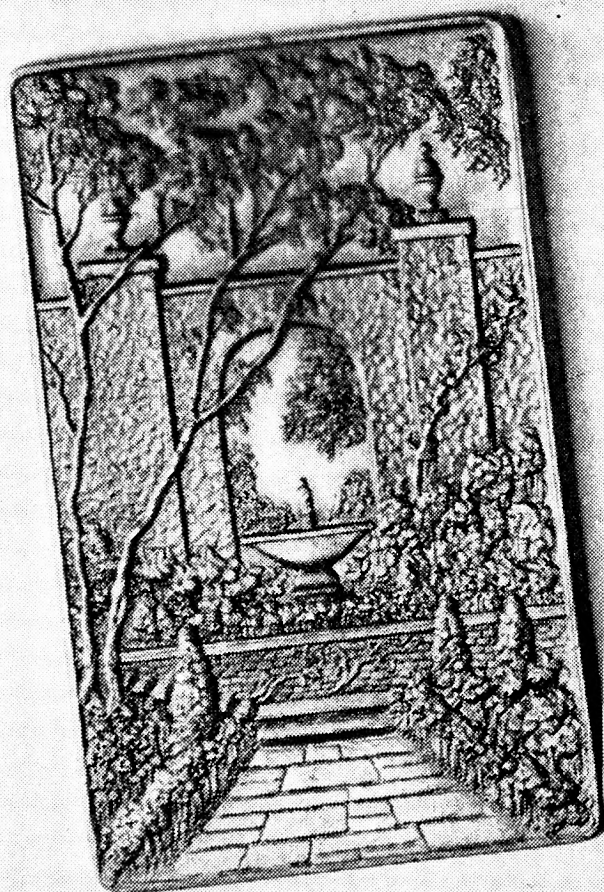
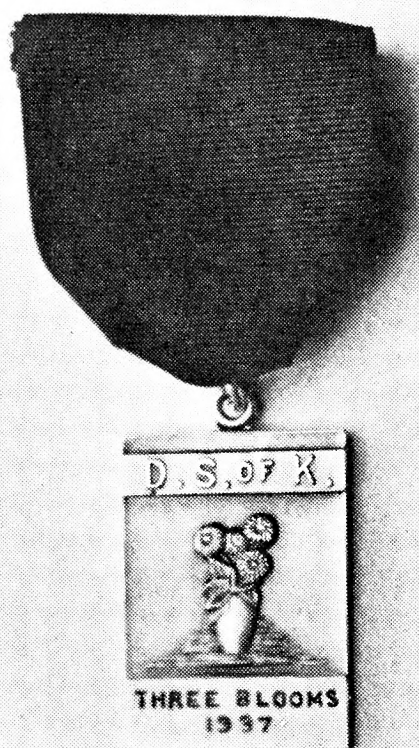
It's very important to plant the correct type and color, for each class, in the particular section you are qualified to exhibit, in this manner help glorify the dahlia in show room, by sharing its beauty to others, and at the same time you may enjoy the thrill of winning ribbons.





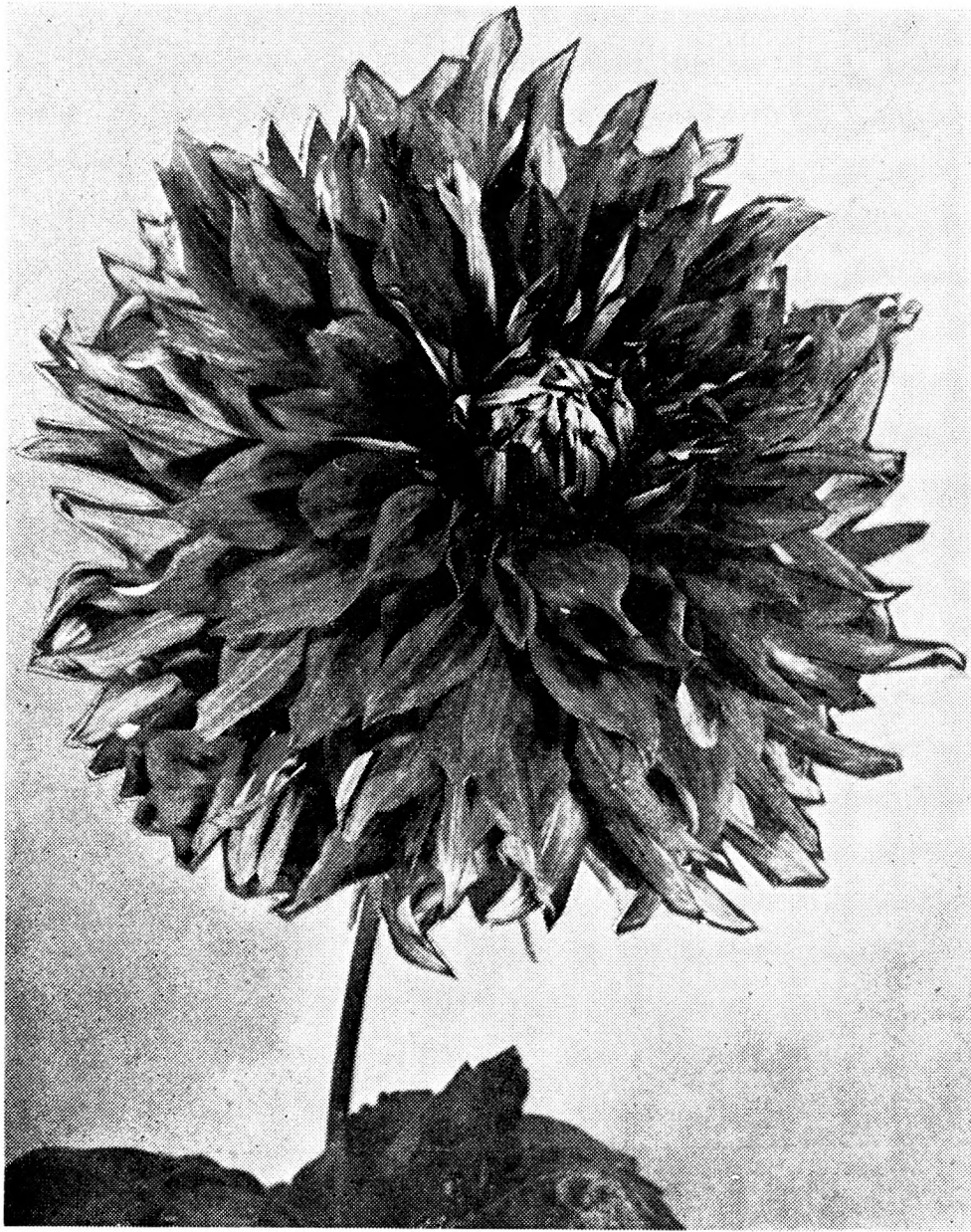
SPECIAL AWARDS 1938







## 1939 Introductions of Other Growers



**GERTRUDE LAWRENCE**

**GERTRUDE LAWRENCE** (Ballay)—Inf. Dec. Light cerise red. This 1939 introduction is a very early bloomer and was in fine condition for the San Francisco Show on August 25, where it carried off the high honors of the day. In addition to winning the American Home Achievement Medal as Best New Introduction an entry of six blooms was also awarded the Dahlia Society of California's Gold Medal for the Best Three-Year-Old, and to make it a perfect day, the English Actress, Gertrude Lawrence, who was guest of honor, selected it from a number of undisseminated varieties to bear her name. It is difficult to give an accurate impression of the lovely color of this dahlia. It is red, but an uncommon shade, probably best described as currant red. It has been called a stylish color and a stylish dahlia. The bloom is very large and is artistically formed with a slight twirl to the petals at the centre. The bush is of medium low spreading growth, but the sturdy long-jointed stems hold the bright flowers well above the plant. It is included in the 1938 California Honor Roll in Flower Grower.

Plants only \$5.00 Net.

**LOIS WALCHER, I. D.**—An informal of true pansy purple tipped one-third white. Winner of 6 American Home Achievement Medals.

Plants only \$3.50; 3 for \$10.00



### SAN FRANCISCO

**SAN FRANCISCO (Ballay)**—Inf. Dec. Shrimp pink. The new giant that has been the 1938 dahlia sensation on the Pacific Coast. In all respects it is a dahlia built on a massive plan, and is outstanding particularly because of the extraordinarily tall, strong growth of the plant which is well able to carry the blooms of such enormous size. All blooms measure from 12 to 15 inches, with great depth, and there is no suggestion of coarseness about them. The well proportioned plant averages 6 to 8 feet in height. The color, which is approximately shrimp pink, is most pleasing and in a class by itself. The foliage is always bright and clean. Mr. J. W. Johnston, author of the annual *Dahlia Futurity in House Beautiful*, writes that it "proved to be one of the finest and largest dahlias in our garden." Mr. Richard T. Eddy, describing it in the *California Honor Roll in Flower Growing*, states that "it is one of the finest pink dahlias I have seen in many moons."

Plants only \$5.00 Net.

**RITA WELLS (Wells-Straight)**.—A massive informal decorative to semi-cactus averaging 13 to 14 inches in diameter with a depth of 7 to 8 inches. Makes a rugged bush growth of 5½ to 6 feet in height with long, heavy stems. Color is grenadine pink on buff gold, an unusual color in such a large flower. Winner of the American Home Achievement Medal at Rockville Centre, L. I., N. Y.; best cemi-cactus seedling at Racine, Wisconsin, and a Certificate of Merit at the West Virginia Trial Gardens.

Plants \$5.00; 3 for \$12.50

# DAHLIAS THAT ARE RECOGNIZED THE WORLD OVER

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

F. D.—Formal Decorative; I. D.—Informal Decorative; S. C.—Semi-Cactus; C.—Cactus; and (\*) Foreign Introductions.

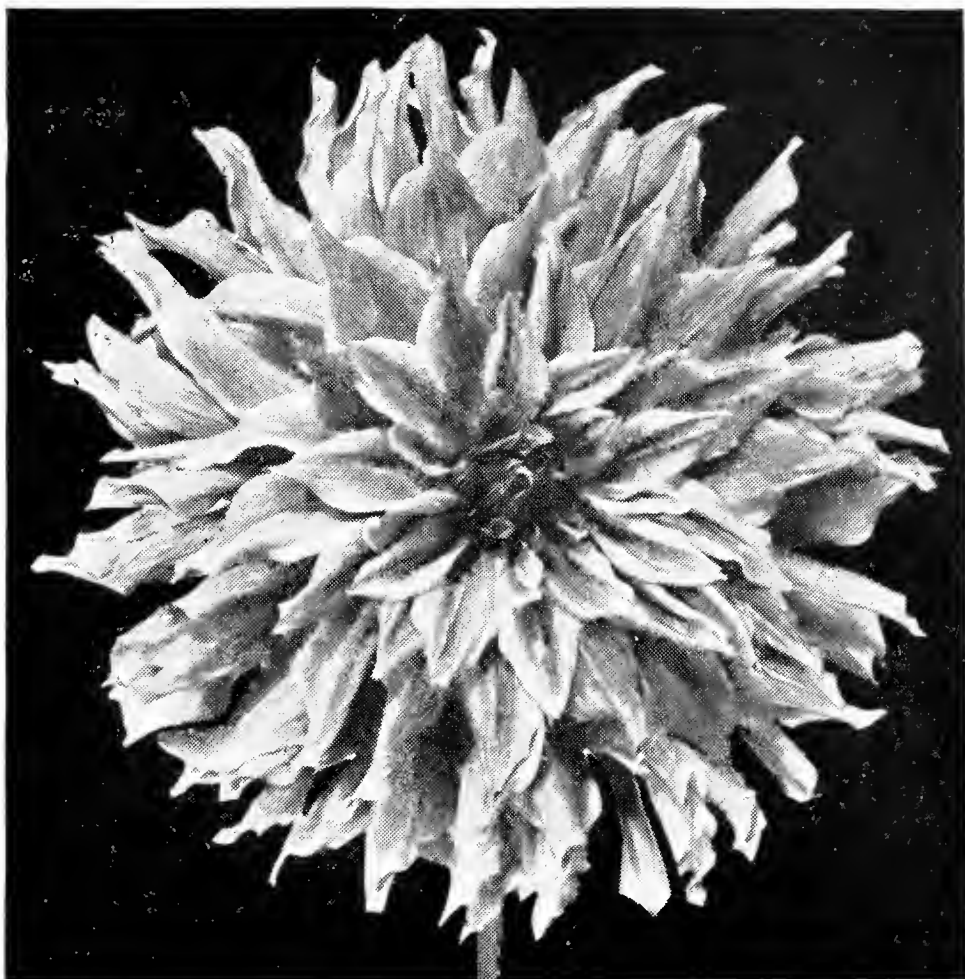
	Roots	Plants
ADORABLE, I. D.—Vivid peach shading to yellow at center, pleasing color. Large well-formed flowers and profuse bloomer .....	.75	
AMERICAN PURITY, S. C.—Pure white with straight long stems .....	3.00	1.00
AMELIA EARHART, S. C.—Golden Apricot, mammoth bloom. A sure winner. Our stock of this variety is exceptionally good. Mr. F. R. Kruzenknabe of Hackensack, N. J., won special honors in the New York show last year with stock from us. ....	1.00	.50
*AMSTERDAM, C.—Deep rose red with petals golden tipped. A real beauty. ....	1.00	.50
AUTUMN SUNSET, I. D.—Yellow and red, wide branching, good stems. ....	1.75	.75
AZURA, I. D.—Rosy lilac with bluish sheen, mammoth size, many blooms measuring 12 to 14 inches in diameter. Plants tall and strong. Blooms have a distinctive and interesting formation. ....	2.50	1.00
*BALLEGO SURPRISE, S. C.—Beautiful snow white. Perfect form, free flowering, excellent stems. One that will rank with the best. ....	1.50	.75
*BAERNE, S. C.—Old rose pink with salmon glow. A real winner .....	1.50	.50
BETTE DAVIS, S. C.—Deep violet rose, a consistent winner. Bush growth rugged. Very desirable. ....	1.00	.50
*BERGER'S JEWEL, C.—Rich lilac pink with lighter center, very dainty and quite useful for arrangements. Blooms early. ....	.50	
BETSY, I. D.—A very beautiful pastel shade, excellent stems, free flowering. One of the good 1938 introductions. Certified at Storrs. ....	5.00	1.50
BING CROSBY, I. D.—Yellow penciled red. One of the largest bi-colors. Sturdy bush growth. ....	1.00	.50
BLUE RIVER, F. D.—Blue french violet. It never fails to grow. Wins more than its share of blue ribbons.....	1.00	.50
BUCKEYE KING, F. D.—Color amber gold. Extremely vigorous, stems strong. ....	.50	
BUCKEYE GLORY, I. D.—Orchid, shaded lavender. It produces very strong growth, long, straight stems, blooms freely. ....	1.50	.75
CAPTAIN RITTER, I. D.—Pastel shades of amber, yellow and pink. Long stems. ....	.90	





### CALIFORNIA PEACH

	Roots	Plants
<b>CALIFORNIA PEACH, S. C.</b> —Bright coral or peach pink. Size and form similar to Satan. Bushes very robust.....	3.00	1.25
<b>CALIFORNIA IDOL, I. D.</b> —Clear bright yellow, blooms early and freely, an outstanding winner. The world's greatest yellow. ....	1.00	.50
<b>CAVALCADE, F. D.</b> —Rich mulberry rose. Early and productive. ....	.50	
<b>CHEROKEE BRAVE, I. D.</b> —Glowing dark carmine, does not burn or fade. Long, stiff stems hold bloom in perfect position. Wealth of beautiful foliage. Possesses every exhibition quality of a champion.....	5.00	2.00
<b>*CHIEF WHIP, S. C.</b> —Citron yellow, well formed, very beautiful. ....	.50	
<b>CLARA CARDER, I D.</b> —Cyclamen pink, attractive.....	.75	



AZURA

	Roots	Plants
CONSERVATRIX, C.—Bright geranium red, plants medium to tall. Consistent prize winner. ....	.50	
COMETEER, C.—Straight cactus, pure gold to pinkish gold, certificate American Dahlia Society 1937, scoring 86 for exhibition and 85 as cut flower .....	3.00	1.00
CORONADO, F. D.—Bright rose magenta. Very large in size and of excellent build and texture, it produces magnificent blooms early and freely. This variety has rugged individuality combined with beauty and productiveness	7.50	2.50
CORALLINA, S. C.—Deep brick red, best of stems, highly recommended. ....	.75	
CURLY LOCKS, F. D.—Autumn tints, bright gold with tints of apricot. The petals are exceptionally long, curl and twist, forming a beautiful bloom. One of the top notchers. We recommend it highly. ....	2.50	1.00
DAVID COPPERFIELD, I. D.—Lavender. The blooms stand staunchly on straight stems, and have great depth with high centers. ....	2.00	1.00
DEAN ANDERSON, I. D.—Radiant henna orange, one of the outstanding varieties. Much praise due this one. Attracted attention of our visitors. ....	3.00	1.00
DISCOVERY, I. D.—Rosy magenta, a champion in every way. Bushes are literally bouquets with mammoth blooms on strong stems. ....	2.00	1.00
*DOKOUPILS GIANT, F. D.—Soft lilac rose, excellent variety	.45	



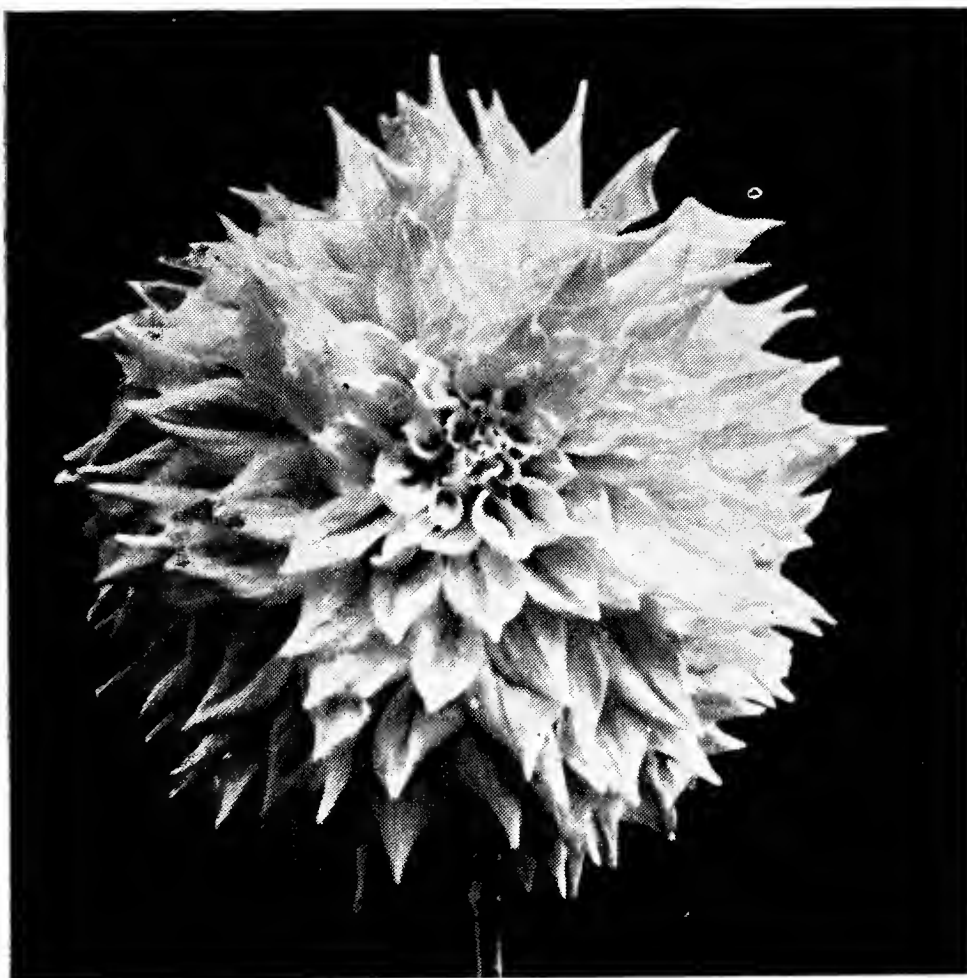
**CORONADO**



**GOLDEN BEAUTY**

	Roots	Plants
DR. J. SCHEINER, S. C.—Soft lilac, bushes medium to tall, blooming habits prolific. ....	.60	
DULCINEA, C.—Soft crimson red, with long pointed petals. Slender, wiry stems and a good grower. A lovely cactus. ....	1.00	.50
ELISSA LANDI, F. D.—Rich salmon orange, stiff, strong stems. ....	.45	
EVA HUNT, I. D.—Waxy white, blooms are large. A good grower. ....	.45	
FIREBALL, F. D.—A brilliant scarlet greatly admired. Foliage heavy. ....	1.00	.50
FRAU IDA MANSFIELD, C.—Buttercup yellow, lovely blooms of medium size. ....	.90	
FRECKLES, I. D.—Lemon chrome blotched scarlet. A fine grower and one of the best bi-colors. ....	3.50	1.50
*GEORGE L. FARNUM, C.—Crimson scarlet, excellent growth habits. ....	.30	
GALA CALIFORNIA, C.—A true cactus in brilliant orange, with erect stem. ....	7.50	2.00
GENESEE, F. D.—New color, solid burnt orange. The petals roll back to stem. ....	.30	
GOLDEN BEAUTY, I. D.—The stout stems carry huge blooms to erect facing position. Color golden apricot yellow. Really a beautiful dahlia that is sure to please. Visitors especially were attracted to this one. ....	2.00	.75
GOLDEN STANDARD, C.—Buff shaded gold, stems splendid, and foliage good. ....	.60	

	Roots	Plants
<b>GRAND MASTER, F. D.</b> —An immense decorative 12 to 14 inches in diameter by 8 inches in depth. Bronze shading to orange at the center. The plants are wide branching with huge blooms on erect stems. Foliage of heavy texture. An honor roll dahlia. ....	5.00	1.50
<b>GREATER GLORY, C.</b> —Deep rose pink. Occasionally a bloom will show some deep cream at center. It is one of the most artistic. Immense size and a great winner. ....	4.50	1.50
<b>*HASLEROVA, I. D.</b> —White with royal purple markings. Winner as best bi-color in many shows. Attracts much attention in our gardens. ....	1.00	.50
<b>HI-SPEED, I. D.</b> —A new color that is a delightful French plum. Early and free bloomer. Blooms held high above foliage from a side bud. ....	5.00	1.50
<b>HILLCREST SUNSET, I. D.</b> —Sunset shades with mulberry red prevailing. ....	.50	
<b>HONOR BRIGHT, F. D.</b> —Jasper red to deep orange. A good commercial. Stems excellent. ....	.50	
<b>HUNT'S VELVET WONDER, I. D.</b> —Rich violet burgundy with bloom of enormous size, winning its share of largest bloom honors ....	.75	
<b>JERSEY'S DAINTY, C.</b> —White, very beautiful and easy to grow. ....	.50	
<b>JEROME KERN, I. D.</b> —Soft, shrimp pink, exquisite formation. Very desirable. ....	.75	



**CALIFORNIA IDOL**





## MISS GLORY

	Roots	Plants
<b>KARL BONAWITZ, S. C.</b> —One of the older varieties, but still a great favorite with us. It is outstanding in the garden, with the long stems holding the brilliant red flowers well out of the foliage. It always attracts. ....	1.00	.50
<b>KAY FRANCIS, S. C.</b> —Color yellow, blooms early. Bush medium height. ....	.50	
<b>KATIE K, I. D.</b> —A clean pink of large size on long stems. A certified winner. Nice bush. It is one of the best. Listed on all honor rolls. ....	5.00	1.00
<b>KEMP'S MONARCH, I. D.</b> —Huge blooms almost ball-shaped, grow 10 and 12x7 inches. Stems stiff, foliage dark green and insect resistant. The color is deep salmon changing to orange chrome and lighter salmon. ....	5.00	2.00
<b>KEMP'S GREAT EASTERN, I. D.</b> —Blend of golden orange and reddish bronze. One of the largest. Foliage leathery. ....	1.50	.75
<b>KENTUCKY SUN, F. D.</b> —A pure yellow that does not fade or burn. You can always find a blue ribbon on this variety in the yellow formal classes. ....	1.50	.75
<b>*LEIDEN'S ELEGANCE, C.</b> —Vermillion red, good keeper and strong stems. ....	.60	
<b>LILAC GLORY, C.</b> —Violet rose. Always beautiful. Excellent stems, profuse bloomer. One of our favorites in its class. ....	.50	
<b>LORD OF AUTUMN, I. D.</b> —Deep golden yellow. Its wonderful color and formation makes this one hard to beat.....	1.00	.50



**LELAND STANFORD**

	Roots	Plants
<b>LELAND STANFORD, I. D.</b> —Brilliant cardinal red. It is claimed the brightest big red. It does not fade. Plants are very vigorous, strong stems and good foliage, and an early and exceptionally free bloomer. ....	3.00	1.00
<b>MAY ROBSON, S. C.</b> —Clear, bright pink, sturdy bush, sraight, long stems .....	.90	
<b>MARYLAND MELODY, C.</b> —A splendid French purple dahlia. Flowers will range form 6 to 8 inches on cane-like stems. Bushes grow 6 feet tall. ....	2.50	1.00
<b>MASON'S PURPLE BEAUTY, F. D.</b> —Purple, certificate winner at East Lansing Trial Grounds 1936. ....	.90	







One plant of ROBERT RIPLEY with 12 blooms, several measuring over 12 inches in diameter.



	Roots	Plants
*MASCOTTE, C.—Received the highest award in Holland. Color carmine pink, fine stems. One of the loveliest cactus for its perfect formation. It creates much attention. ....		.75
MABEL BURKHART, S. C.—A fine blending of pink and cameo shades of cream. Blooms have excellent centers and held facing upright on long, strong stems. ....	2.25	1.00
MARGRACE, I. D.—Bright red tipped gold with light reverse. Very attractive. Bush of spreading growth.....		.50
MICHIGAN WHITE, S. C.—A fine commercial white. It has won four certificates of merit. Bushes of medium height.	5.00	1.50
MIRIAM HOPKINS, S. C.—Salmon pink, very large blooms on long, straight stems. Tall bush. ....	2.00	.75
*MISS BELGIUM, C.—Bright orange, a good cut flower, excellent long stems, perfectly formed flowers.....	.75	
MISS GLORY, S. C.—Apricot yellow, perfect stems. Free and early bloomer, extremely refined flower in every sense, yet massive in size. ....	1.00	.50
MISS INDIANA, F. D.—Color a beautiful soft shade of pink. A real beauty, with flowers held in just the right position, on long, strong stems; with that quality for keeping that is unequaled. Flowers can be cut when only half open, to bloom completely when placed in water. ....	1.00	.50
MISS OHIO, C.—Color lilac suffused deep rose pink. Stems very long and erect. ....	1.00	.50
MISS OAKLAND, F. D.—Pure white. Prolific bloomer, perfectly formed flowers 7 to 9 inches in diameter. Plant growth healthy and good. ....	1.00	.50
MISS PARKERSBURG, I. D.—Sensation and winner. Color ochraceous buff, back of petals carrot red and flesh color. It grows over 12 inches in diameter by 8 inches in depth. It is an abundant bloomer, having from 7 to 8 blooms on a plant at one time. It branches from the ground with canes four to five feet long. ....	5.00	2.00
MONARCH OF THE EAST, F. D.—Orange bronze with orange buff reverse. It has cane-like stems that hold the bloom well out of the foliage. ....	7.50	2.00
MRS. IDA CHASE, C.—Combination of bright lemon yellow and spiral pink; reverse pale lavender pink. Plant growth is all that could be desired. ....	1.00	.50
MRS. C. E. WILDON, F. D.—A scarlet red with orange buff reverse. Something different in a very large red which rolls back to stem. An abundant bloomer with good stems and foliage. Truly outstanding .....	5.00	1.50
MRS. WM. KNUDSON, I. D.—A pure white, a flower that can easily be grown to 12 inches without forcing, on six-foot bush. Has heavy foliage. ....	5.00	1.50
MRS. BRUCE COLLINS, C.—Light lemon yellow, free flowering. ....	.75	
MRS. GEO. LE BOUTELLIER, I. D.—Crimson red, a good one.	.50	



## PACIFIC SPLENDOR

	Roots	Plants
<b>MRS. HERBERT O'CONNOR, S. C.</b> —Soft rose pink, beautiful form, profuse and continuous bloomer.....	1.00	.50
<b>MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE, I. D.</b> —Dark red shading to garnet. Blooms of enormous size. It still wins its share of prizes. ....	1.00	.50
<b>OAKLEIGH MONARCH, F. D.</b> —Cerise red, very attractive flower. Keeping qualities splendid. Diameter of flowers 8 to 11 inches. Sturdy in growth. ....	1.00	.50
<b>ORIENTAL GLORY, I. D.</b> —Cadmium orange, rather tall bush.	.50	
<b>PACIFIC SPLENDOR, I. D.</b> —Nearly white at center, with body of flower delicate lavender pink. A true pastel shade. The soft tones of this flower gives a distinctive beauty and definite appeal. The blooms are large, with petals slightly waved. Growing habits good. ....	3.00	1.00

	Roots	Plants
*PAUL PFITZER, S. C.—Beautiful blending of shell pink and primrose combination. ....	.75	
PEACE, I. D.—Lovely snow white, long stems hold flower facing. Petals long and broad, with light, wavy but graceful effect, which enhances its beauty. One of the best. Don't miss this one. ....	3.50	1.25
*PHANTOM, I. D.—Purple tipped white, good bi-color, sturdy bush habit. ....	.75	
*PINK SPIRAL, C.—Peach blossom pink. Blooms are very artistic. Stems excellent. ....	.75	
PINK ELEGANCE, S. C.—Unusual charm and beauty, a true brilliant rose pink, blooms 8 to 11 inches in diameter with corresponding depth; holds perfect center throughout the season. Its artistic formation, keeping qualities, consistent blooming, created sensations by exhibitors and garden enthusiasts. Winner of the blue ribbon at the Madison Show in the hottest of competition for the 1938 origination. It also won the same honor in the three-bloom class. Mr. Oler of Dublin, writes: "I am sending picture of Pink Elegance 11¾ by 7 inches, planted July 16 picture taken Oct. 10th. I also found it to be the best keeper after cut of any large dahlia I ever experimented with." It won the award of Honor for distinctive color, form and size at the Georgia Experimental station 1938. Mr. Sanders from South Bend writes: "Pink Elegance was very elegant in our garden, bush and flowers perfect and was much admired." .... (See picture on opposite page)	5.00	2.00
*PRACHTKERL, S. C.—A deeper yellow and larger than Frau O'Bracht. Very attractive ....	.75	
QUEEN CITY, F. D.—Pretty shade of bright red. It attracts. Medium size bloom on long stems. ....	1.00	.50
RED SALUTE, F. D.—A bright scarlet with a reverse of old rose. Strong stems which hold the bloom in great style. It is an extremely free bloomer and blooms never show open centers. Petals fall back to the stem and terminate with serrated tips. Blooms average from 9 to 11 inches. ....	7.50	2.50
R. A. BROOMFIELD, I. D.—Saffron orange flushed with rose. Very prolific. ....	.50	
*REICHARDT'S MASTERPIECE, C.—No other combination of color like it. Canary yellow and amethyst combination. It is very pleasing and most unusual.....	1.00	.50
ROBERT J. RIPLEY, I. D.—Rhodamine purple with rose suffusions. One of the largest flowering dahlias in existence to date. An ideal growing variety. ....	3.00	1.00
ROYAL PURCHASE, C.—Deep straw yellow with outer petals suffused with pink. An incurved cactus that attains immense size. ....	1.00	.50
*ROYAL AUVERGNE, S. C.—A very satisfactory dahlia. Color salmon amber flushed yellow. ....	.75	
SALEM STREAMLINE, I. D.—Beautiful old rose suffused with carmine rose. It has substance, very artistic in form.....	1.00	.50





	Roots	Plants
*SAARLAND'S HEIMKERH—Yellow and salmon. ....	.75	
*SCHENTENCHI, C.—Dark maroon, blooms about 7 to 8 inches. The florets are narrow and completely revolute. ....	.75	
SALLY LOU, S. C.—Color dark orange shaded brown. Average size of blooms 7 to 8 inches. Very prolific, bushes always loaded with beautiful flowers. Visitors liked this one. A winner of American Home Achievement Medal. ....	5.00	1.50
SEVERIN'S TRIUMPH, F. D.—Clear, true pink. A very attractive flower. ....	.50	
SLEEPY HOLLOW, C.—An honor roll dahlia. It has tall, vigorous growth. Average size 9 to 11 inches, long stems, and never a bad center. This dahlia possesses a tendency to close at night. It resembles a giant deep shell pink mum with its twisting and curling petals which entirely hide the center of flower. ....	5.00	1.50
SONNY BOY, I. D.—Old rose, monstrous bloom with strong stems. ....	.45	
SOUVENIR, I. D.—Color tyrian pink, flowering habit prolific. Habit of growth dense, much branching. ....	2.00	1.00
SUNRAYS, I. D.—A winner of American Home Achievement Medal. Highest scoring dahlia in West Virginia trial grounds in 1936. The color is a bright apricot, blooms averaging 12 inches. Extra long stiff stems. Flowers have great depth, substance, and excellent keeping qualities. ....	10.00	3.50
SON OF SATAN, S. C.—Noted for its early and prolific blooming, with its gorgeous big red flowers and petals incurved ....	1.50	.75
*TAPLOW COURT, F. D.—This big distinct salmon-colored dahlia is much admired ....	.90	
THE GATEWAY, I. D.—Color light orange yellow-suffused rose red. Petals outlined rose red and rose reverse. They are embossed twist and show reverse. ....	2.50	1.00
THE FIREMAN, I. D.—Spectrum red, tips of petal mustard yellow. ....	.50	
TOM WORKMAN, I. D.—Two-tone russet flame with lighter reverse. The color is very striking. ....	3.00	1.00
TYRUS, C.—A very attractive variety. The medium size flowers have a lively dark magenta rose color. Stems strong. ....	.90	
VOLCANO, F. D.—Orange flame color. Its huge size and keeping qualities, along with its great vigor makes this dahlia one of the best. ....	2.00	1.00
WHITE QUEEN, I. D.—A pure, clean white, an excellent keeper. ....	.90	
WHITE CLOUD, F. D.—A clean, perfect white on good, stiff stems. ....	.90	
YELLOW MARVEL, F. D.—Color is a deep golden yellow and white. Tall, strong grower. ....	1.50	.75

BALL OR SHOW DAHLIAS

Growing more popular every season and, because of their unusual keeping qualities, we predict that they will be more extensively grown.

	Roots	Plants
ACQUISITION—Beautiful deep lilac .....	.75	
BLACK DIAMOND—Large dark velvety red .....	.50	
CLARA CLEMENS—Crimson tipped white .....	.50	
CHARLOTTE CALDWELL—Bright orange with shading of terra cotta. It has wonderful foliage and vigorous growth. Always a winner. ....	1.00	.50
JERSEY'S BEACON BALL—Orange scarlet, lovely .....	.35	
*LUCY FAWCETT—Pale lemon yellow, lined and dotted red-dish purple. Excellent color for cut flowers. ....	.35	
MRS. C. B. ANDERSON—Free cutter, large purplish red.....	.50	
MISS VIVIAN—White-tipped rose. ....	.35	
MARMOR—White overcast light violet, most prolific.....	.75	
MARY HELEN—A lovely yellow, one of the best yellows.....	.50	
OLIVE PICKFORD—Base of the petal is yellow, blending through primrose to salmon pink, heavily-tipped rosy carmine. ....	.50	
ORCHID BALL—Orchid, good form, exhibition variety.....	.50	
PATRICIA ARMSTRONG—White penciled violet and red, very outstanding .....	1.00	.50
PINK BALL—Silvery pink, stems and foliage splendid.....	.50	
QUEEN OF SMILES—Rose cerise. Award of Honor at Atlanta	1.00	.50
ROSE BEAUTY—Rosey purple. Free bloomer .....	.15	
SNOW QUEEN—Pure ivory white, very fine, best white on the market .....	.75	
SUPT. AMRYHN—Tyrian pink. ....	.50	
TECUMSEH—Large dark red .....	2.50	1.00
WOLVERINE GEM—White and red. Excellent bi-color.....	2.00	1.00
YO YO—Autumn shades of perfect form and a good grower	.50	
ZELDA—Beautiful formation and unusual color, nearest to rose ash, good in every respect. Exhibition variety.....	3.00	1.00

GREEN PLANTS

Our plants are properly grown with use of modern equipment. Greenhouse and cold frames electrically heated with thermostatic control. Be assured of strong, healthy plants. Try them.



## MINIATURE DAHLIAS

Miniatures are of the same form as the large dahlias, but miniature in size. We enjoy much the growing of miniatures. They are wonderful as cut flowers, and beautiful for home arrangements. They require less garden space. We recommend them to you, and urge you to try a few of them.

	Roots	Plants
BUCKEYE BABY, F. D.—Gold buff, blooms very small.....	.50	
BEATRICE VON VALKENBERG, F. D.—Orchid lavender, a very small flower, free and good.....	.50	
BLUEBIRD, F. D.—Bluish lavender, stems and foliage good	.40	
BLUE STAR, S. C.—Violet and white. Best bi-color, free bloomer. ....	1.00	.50
CORONNE, F. D.—Waxy white, resembles a gardenia, but late	.25	
*CHARD VANITY, S. C.—Clear rich pink, attractive, a winner	1.00	.50
CHARMA, F. D.—A novelty, bright red flecked white. Held erect with long stems.....	1.50	.50
D. B. MILLER, F. D.—Shell pink, dwarf height, but prolific and pretty .....	.25	
FAIRY, F. D.—Soft rose pink, very reliable .....	.25	
GLUROSE, Decorative—Best described as miniature Jersey Beauty in color. It is most profuse bloomer the whole season. 1937 introduction. Lovely .....	.75	
GLARE, I. D.—Fiery flame. One of the best.....	.75	
*GOLDEN ROD, C.—Golden color, good stems and a beauty	.50	
GUTT GLUCK, S. C.—Violet tipped white, good bi-color.....	.40	
JANE HOBBY. Decorative—Plants are covered with brilliant scarlet flowers .....	.40	
LAKESIDE BABE, F. D.—Canary yellow. One of the best.....	1.00	.50
*LITTLE JENNY, S. C.—The flowers are flesh colored with canary yellow in center. The petals are a little curved. Very strong and recommended for every purpose. Cer- tificate of Merit in Holland.....	1.00	.50
LITTLE PEARL, S. C.—Lovely rose pink, stems and foliage good .....	.50	
*LITTLE DREAM, C.—Brilliant rose with lighter center, very popular .....	.50	
LITTLE NEMO, F. D.—Rich crimson and white. Attractive	.25	
MARKET GLORY, S. C.—Lilac pink. Flowers 4 to 5 inches. Fine for cutting and exhibition. ....		.50
MARKET JEWELL, S. C.—Color velvet red. Cutting and ex- hibition flowers. Grand. ....	1.00	.50
MISS VIVIAN, I. D.—Beautiful rose pink, long stems, good keeper and prolific .....	.50	

	Roots	Plants
<b>MRS. PERRY O'NEAL, P.</b> —Blooms small, rich saffron, prolific, good stems, winner of most outstanding miniature in New York Show, open to all .....	.50	
<b>ORCHID LADY, F. D.</b> —Orchid pink, excellent in every respect .....	.50	
<b>PETER, C.</b> —Yellow suffused and tipped red, one of the best.....	.50	
<b>PEYTIE CONWAY, F. D.</b> —Violet rose with silver, long stems and a champion .....	.50	
<b>PERSIMMON, F. D.</b> —Soft russet orange, best of its color.....	.25	
<b>POPPY</b> —Yellow center changing to deep coral and rosy tint, winner of gold medal .....	.50	
<b>*ROBIN, C.</b> —Deep crimson of perfect form .....	.50	
<b>SAMARITAN, C.</b> —Beautiful white cactus. Very useful for cutting .....	.35	
<b>*SLAVKA DOK, F. D.</b> —A splendid bi-color, orange and white .....	.40	
<b>SYLVIA, F. D.</b> —Most beautiful garnet red. A rampant grower, making nice long stems. It scored at Storr's and East Lansing. ....	1.50	.50
<b>TINY-P.</b> —Peach pink, outstanding prize winner .....	.25	
<b>Useful, D.</b> —Lilac rose .....	.25	
<b>VREEWIJK</b> —Apricot colored, good straight stems and splendid keeping qualities .....	.50	
<b>WHISPER, S. C.</b> —Pure yellow, certificate of merit East Lansing 1936 .....	.50	
<b>WHITE GEM.</b> —A beautiful pure white informal miniature, about three inches on very long perfect stems. Blooms are uniform in size, never showing open centers. The petals are clefted, giving appearance of a carnation. Bush growth vigorous, wide branching. Rather late to bloom and should be planted early. It is entirely different from any on the market. ....	1.25	.50

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### Visitors Welcome

Remember, a cordial invitation is extended to you to visit us and our gardens.

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### OUR LOCATION

Our Exhibition Gardens are located at 616 Hutchins Avenue, and 620 Cottage Avenue. Fieldstock at 24th and Caldwell Drive, two blocks from State Road 46.

## POMPON DAHLIAS

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Pompons are small ball-shaped flowers, and are always in great demand. We still list some of the older varieties as we find them invaluable, and add our choice to tried new ones.

	Roots	Plants
AIMEE—Tiny bronze .....	.25	
BETTY ANN—Rose pink. Perfect .....	.50	
*BURWOOD—Yellow tipped scarlet .....	.75	
CANARY—A beautiful canary yellow. Very large bushes, very prolific bloomer. A winner in its class .....	1.00	.50
DEE DEE—Pure lavender, small, perfectly formed.....	.35	
DOLORES—Deep pink, pretty, very charming.....	.40	
DOTTY DIMPLE—Small yellow ,long stems .....	.40	
DONNY—Small orange, holds center, very pretty.....	.35	
*DORIA—Rich maroon red, from Australia, most perfect tiny bloom, an easy winner. Stems long and strong. Out- standing in its color .....	.75	
GERTRUDE—Bright red .....	.35	
GOLDEN PHEASANT—Bronze gold .....	.75	
HEILDEPUPPE—Raspberry red, tiny bloom, abundance of bloom .....	.35	
HONEY—Yellow suffused red .....	.25	
LITTLE DAVID—Burnt orange, perfect .....	.25	
LITTLE SUNSHINE—Gold, one of the best.....	.35	
LIBBIE ROHR—Cerise purple, long stems .....	.40	
LITTLE DORRIT—Deep purple of small size. Real good.....	.35	
LOUISE SHELLY—Lovely true pink blending to white center	.25	
LITTLE EDITH—Often wins in show room as the smallest, yellow tipped bronze .....	.25	
MARY MUNNS—Fuschia overlaid orchid sheen, long stems.....	.35	
MIKE—Burnt orange .....	.25	
MORNING MIST—White with rosy lavender center, outlined with lavender, great bloomer, stiff wiry stems. Excellent	.50	
*MRS. V. BRITTAIN—Mauve pink. A great winner.....	.75	
NERISSA—Soft rose pink, tinted silver .....	.40	
NELLIE FRAZIER—Light pink shaded with rose pink.....	.25	
POSEY GEM—The most beautiful of all autumn shades .....	.50	
POSEY PINK—A true pink. Certified at East Lansing 1937.....	1.00	.50
ROSA WILMOUTH—Rosy pink, grand for cutting .....	.25	
SHERRY—Royal purple. Exhibition type .....	.50	

	Roots	Plants
SONNY—Pinkish cinnamon, exhibition type .....	.25	
TY TEE—Lovely cream peach .....	.35	
TOM THUMB—Very small red, strong stems .....	.25	
VERIDA FLORA—Novelty, real green .....	.50	
YELLOW GEM.—Pure canary yellow .....	.25	

Our gardens and field are State Inspected.

### ORCHID AND COLLARETTE

Your garden is not complete without some of these beautiful types.

DAHLIADEL TWINKLE, Orchid type—Tyrian rose and white .....	.50
LEOPARD, Orchid type—Yellow spotted crimson reverse.....	.25
FIXLER'S COLLARETTE—Bright red with white collar.....	.25
GRANITE FALLS, Collarette—Showy red with bright yellow collar .....	.25

### ANEMONE AND SINGLES

GRAZIELLA, Anemone—Red penciled with white, center gold .....	.50
TWINKLE, (Lee) Anemone—Pale pink, tipped light yellow, cushion pale yellow, blooms very small, notched petals, a dainty flower for table decoration. Bushes always full of bloom .....	.50
FRAGRANCE, Single—Lovely red and white, bi-color, very attractive .....	.50
HELENA, Mignon—Purest white, long wirelike stems and grand keeper .....	.50
PRINCESS MARIE JOSE, Mignon—Satin pink, very fine, long stems .....	.50
PREAKNESS—A pure white with excellent stems and bush. Blooms profusely from August until frost.....	1.50 .75

## BARGAIN COLLECTION of ROOTS POST PAID

1. Six ball dahlias, our selection, six different colors, all standard varieties, each labeled. **\$1.75 Net**
2. Ten small flowered dahlias, our selection, ten different colors. Standard varieties, each labeled. **\$1.75 Net**
3. Four mammoth dahlias, all ten-inches flowers or more, in colors, red, yellow, lavender and autumn. Standard varieties, each labeled; our selection. **\$3.50 Net**

## **STOCK UP WITH SPARKS' DAHLIAS**

We described most of the varieties briefly, as we feel the saving of an abundance of adjectives, is better passed to the buyer.

Our stock is properly grown for quality root production, which is again proven by many of our customers, excellent show record.

Your success depends upon good stock, and our success depends upon yours.

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### **Terms**

Cash with order or 25% down, balance before delivery. All retail orders of \$5.00 or more shipped prepaid.

### **Guarantee**

All stock guaranteed to be true to name and in growing condition. Satisfaction upon arrival or money refunded.

### **Substitutions**

We never substitute without permission.

### **Prompt Shipments**

Personal attention given to all orders, large or small.

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## **WHOLESALE**

The usual discount of 33-1/3% from the prices listed, excepting varieties marked "Net." We do not issue a separate wholesale list.

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**Grow dahlias--they will give you endless pleasure.**

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**Buy Sparks' Dahlias. You will not be disappointed.**

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**NO SUNDAY SALES**

## PREPARING DAHLIA BLOOM FOR EXHIBITION and TRANSPORTATION OF DAHLIAS.

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From experience we have found certain principles which we consider to be valuable in our own work, and which may be of assistance to others.

To prevent wilting of bloom depends on three items:

Namely, GROWTH OF PLANTS, with balanced fertilizer.

Feed enough for vigor, but not force for bloom. If the latter, do what you may, and to no avail, as they haven't the substance to hold up through the show and maybe not until judging. Better grow with balanced rations and less nitrates, if you desire good flowers for show room.

Secondly, CUTTING. We cut any time of day, when flower is ready, preferably morning before the show, but have cut on Thursday for Saturday's exhibition. We don't think the time of day so important, as the treatment thereafter. Select the most perfect and uniform bloom, cut stems at an internode, where stem pores are larger, and thereby attain more moisture. Stems should be cut at an angle with sharp knife, and carry with heads down to cool, clean, rather dark room, which has been well ventilated. Positively no draft on flowers at any time. Of course, place in clean containers. Cut the stem under water about one inch, which allows expelling of air from stem and absorbs more water. Never crowd the bloom, so as to avoid crushed petals. Use ice to chill the water, keeping it cold until packing. We never use any chemicals or hot water treatment as a preservative.

Thirdly, PACKING. Many a fine exhibition bloom should have been a blue ribbon winner, had same been correctly packed. Therefore the corrugated or cardboard box, convenient size for us 10"x-20"x48". We use two quart Mason jars filled with ice cubes, sealed. Tie securely at each end of box in opposite corners. Lay largest bloom with longest stems first. At center sew with soft cord through box, over stem, and tie, to fasten securely, preventing blooms from shifting. For a padding interlace foilage of additional blooms packed. Place shorter stems nearer center of box. Tie these down and then fill box with bloom of still shorter stem, and pack tightly before closing.

Let's all be Boosters for BIGGER and BETTER Dahlia Shows.

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### JOIN THE DAHLIA SOCIETY of Indiana

Dues one dollar per year. On receipt of same we will be glad to forward it to secretary.

## DAHLIA AIDS

As to sharing the knowledge we have gained in growing dahlias, we are ever ready to give any information that will help to promote the flower we love. We realize that every different kind of soil will need different treatment, especially in regard to feeding, and we doubt if any one can give a blanket formula that could possibly cover the needs of the different gardens. A few fundamentals in successful dahlia culture will apply anywhere.

(a) Do not plant dahlias in dense shade, too close to buildings or trees.

(b) Never fertilize at planting time. Wait until plants are well established. Thereafter, as needed. We always advocate sparingly and more often. Heavy applications are dangerous of burning the fibrous roots.

(c) Never allow the soil to bake around the plant. Cultivate regularly.

(d) Do not allow plants to suffer for want of water. We use overhead irrigation, soaking thoroughly. Frequent LIGHT watering brings the roots to the surface where the heat injures them.

(e) Never save any stunts or diseased stock.

(f) Keep insects under control, by regularly spraying.

(g) Keep plants disbudded to obtain the length of stem desired. This course will help the size of bloom.

If you will follow these simple rules and be always on the alert to add to your own experience, then when show time comes, you will win your share of honors. After all is said and done we must work hard for success. It just doesn't "happen."

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### *For Dahlia News We Recommend*

AMERICAN DAHLIA BULLETIN  
251 Court St., West Haven, Conn.

DAHLIA DIGEST  
1040 Rutledge St., Madison, Wis.

THE DAHLIA  
12147 Harvard Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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### MEMBER

Dahlia Society of Indiana  
Dahlia Society of Michigan  
Dahlia Society of Kentucky

The American Dahlia Society  
Ohio Valley Dahlia Society  
Central States Dahlia Society





**GET RESULTS!**

# **SPARKS' DAHLIA GARDENS**

**616 Hutchins Avenue**

**Columbus -- Indiana**

**for**

**QUALITY**

**ROOTS**

**and**

**PLANTS**

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*W. S. Department of Agr.*

*Bureau of Plant Industry*

*Washington, D. C.*

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